

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 07 2004

PTO/SB/97 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0861-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

(703)872-9306

Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

(26 pages total)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office

on December 7, 2004
DateMary Winston
SignatureMary Winston
Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of transmission, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper.

Amendment (23 pages)
Fee Transmittal for FY 2004 (1 page) (PTO/SB/17)
Credit Card Payment Form (1 page) (PTO/2038) (\$398⁰⁰)

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.8. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.8 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Craig
Application No.: 10/064,235
Filed: 6/24/2002
Title: Helical Suture Device
Attorney Docket No.: HRCM.P-004
Customer No.: 021121

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Mendoza, Michael G.

Confirmation No: 6384

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
DEC 07 2004

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 1, 2004, please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendment to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendment to the Drawings being on page 12 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including an additional drawing sheet containing Figure 9 is attached following the Remarks/ Arguments section of this paper.

12/08/2004 EKOLI1 00000007 10064235

Page 1 of 21

01 FC:2202

90.00 OP

02 FC:2201

308.00 OP